

CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Previously Presented) An information recording/reproduction apparatus for performing a preprogrammed recording (i) of information distributed at a predetermined time from a predetermined distribution source (ii) to an information recording medium, and (iii) based on information indicating preprogrammed recording settings determined before the predetermined time of distribution, the information recording/reproduction apparatus comprising:

preprogrammed recording reception means for receiving, as the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings, a date of distribution, a time of distribution, an identification of a distribution source of the distributed information, and an identification of the information recording medium for performing the preprogrammed recording of the distributed information;

recording control means for causing the distributed information to be recorded on the identified information recording medium, the distributed information being recorded based on the received information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings; and

displaying control means for incorporating the received information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings into a two-dimensional matrix defined by the date of distribution, the time of distribution, and a plurality of different information recording mediums capable of having multiple video recordings simultaneously recorded thereto, the plurality of information recording mediums including the identified information recording medium, and the two-dimensional matrix having a plurality of divided areas, each divided area of the plurality of divided areas having a respective date of distribution assigned thereto, such that each divided area of the plurality of divided areas represents the respective date of distribution assigned

thereto and for displaying on a displaying unit a display screen indicating the two-dimensional matrix having incorporated therein the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings,

wherein, when a plurality of pieces of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings are incorporated into the two-dimensional matrix, the plurality of pieces of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings are respectively incorporated into the plurality of divided areas of the two-dimensional matrix based on the respective date of distribution represented by each respective divided area of the plurality of divided areas and indicated by a respective piece of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a preprogramming setting redundancy displaying means for, when two pieces of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings are redundant with respect to a portion of the date of distribution and the time of distribution, displaying an alarm showing that the two pieces information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings are redundant.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the preprogramming setting redundancy displaying means causes the alarm to be displayed by altering one of a display design and a displaying color.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the preprogramming setting redundancy displaying means displays a number of the pieces of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings that are redundant.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising executing preprogrammed recording setting displaying means for displaying, from among the pieces of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings, any preprogrammed recording setting having a preprogramming recording that is under execution, in order to distinguish any preprogrammed recording setting having a preprogrammed recording that is not under execution from the preprogramming recording that is under construction.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a completed preprogrammed recording setting displaying means for displaying, from among the pieces of the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings, any preprogrammed recording setting having a preprogrammed recording that is completed, in order to distinguish any preprogrammed recording setting having a preprogrammed recording that is not completed from the preprogramming recording that is completed.

Claim 7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising automatic preprogrammed recording setting changing means for, in response to an alteration of the time of distribution, altering the information indicating the preprogrammed recording setting by automatically finding an optimum recording control means.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the programmed recording reception means receives the information indicating the preprogrammed recording settings, the displaying control means causes the display unit to display the display screen.

Claim 11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising:

electronic program table shifting means for shifting to an electronic program table; and
electronic program table data setting means for allowing a setting content in an electronic program table to be reflected by executing a preprogrammed selection, and for allowing information data indicating one or more of a program title and stereo in the electronic program table, to be set and recorded.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising automatic preprogrammed recording setting generation means for selecting an optimum recording control means for information indicating a new preprogrammed recording setting, the selection being based on information indicating an existing preprogrammed recording setting related to the information recording medium.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the optimum recording control means is connected to a network.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising automatic recording resetting means for reconstructing the information indicating preprogrammed recording settings, in order to optimize a constraint on hardware arising from a combination of the information recording medium and the recording control means.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising automatic recording setting means for, in a new preprogrammed recording setting, automatically generating information indicating an optimum preprogrammed recording setting, if the date of distribution, the time of distribution, and the distribution source are received by the preprogrammed recording reception means.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising preprogrammed recording setting changing means for

diverting, when the distributed information is incapable of being recorded properly, a recording destination of the distributed information to another video recording device medium or to a medium of another device.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising menu means for performing one of a reproduction, a deletion, and a dubbing of distributed information having preprogrammed recording completed.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising menu means for enabling simultaneous recording and reproduction of distributed information having preprogrammed recording under execution.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

remaining capacity detection means for detecting a recordable capacity of the information recording medium; and

recording capability determining means for displaying an alarm indicating a recording incapability when the detected capacity falls short of a recording time specified by the information indicating the preprogramming settings.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) The information recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising preprogrammed recording optimizing means for, when the detected capacity falls short of the recording time specified by the information indicating the

preprogramming settings, setting preprogrammed recordings up to a limit of recording that is possible using the detected capacity.